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THE Marketing and Transportation SITUATION

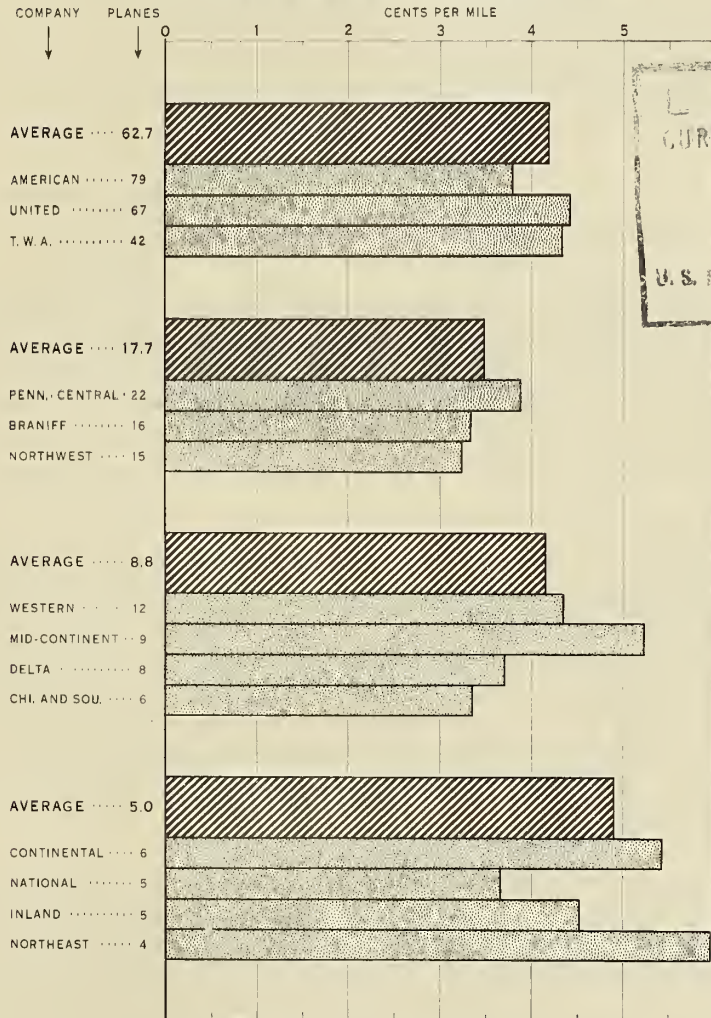
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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BAC

NOVEMBER 1944

OPERATING COST PER SEAT MILE* OF TRANSPORT
PLANES BY SIZE OF COMPANY^Δ



* FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1941. AIR TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY.
E. F. HUTTON AND COMPANY, NEW YORK, OCTOBER 1944.

^Δ NUMBER OF PLANES ON DECEMBER 31, 1941. CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD,
ECONOMIC BUREAU, RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS DIVISION

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NEG. 43967 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

Efficiency factors in air transportation of perishable agricultural commodities are indicated in the record of air passenger operations. Available cost figures indicate, although not conclusively, that air carriers of medium size have unit costs as low as or lower than much larger carriers and that a condition of constant costs seems to characterize the industry after a certain scale of operations has been reached. The average of 17.7 transport planes owned by Northwest, Penn-Central and Braniff airlines is equivalent in cargo carrying capacity to about eight C-54A planes.

 THE MARKETING AND TRANSPORTATION SITUATION

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POST-WAR FROZEN FOOD EQUIPMENT PROBLEMS

Many manufacturers of refrigerated equipment for homes, farms, and commercial establishments are now making their plans for resuming production when outbacks in the output of military equipment make this possible. Because of the important part which frozen foods are expected to play in the marketing of agricultural perishables after the war, and in farm and city homes, farmers and the general public are vitally interested in these plans of equipment manufacturers.

There has been increasing evidence, for example, that manufacturers of household refrigerators have intended to resume production of substantially the same models which were being manufactured when output was cut off by the war. Many of these refrigerators have inadequate storage capacity for frozen foods. If a million or two of these refrigerators should be produced and sold immediately after production is resumed, they would retard frozen food utilization in a substantial percentage of the total number of homes having electrical refrigeration. It would be very desirable, therefore, to enlarge the evaporators on current models to provide more frozen food storage space, provided the engineering difficulties involved could be overcome with a minimum of retooling.

Another important problem which will arise in connection with refrigerated equipment is the introduction of new farm and home freezers. Information already at hand indicates that many different sizes and types of freezers will be actively promoted as soon as production can be got under way. Many farmers and consumers may buy freezers which are not well adapted to their needs, and which they will have on their hands for a long time to come. It is highly desirable, therefore, that prospective manufacturers of such equipment understand as well as possible the needs of potential farm as well as city users of such equipment. In this way, it may be possible to avoid many of the mistakes which can be made so easily in the development of a new industry of this kind.

Most important of all, from the standpoint of a desirable post-war development of frozen foods, is the production of adequate retail distribution equipment which will be suitable for the self-service retail store operation which has been increasing in importance in recent years. Up to now, the lack of fully suitable equipment of this kind has been a principal obstacle to the development of commercial frozen food operations along lines similar to those which have been found

most successful and economical for other types of processed foods. Many different types of low-temperature retail store merchandising cabinets are now on the drawing boards of equipment manufacturers, and in some cases experimental models have been developed. It seems apparent that in many cases frozen food merchandising is still looked upon by equipment manufacturers as a specialty operation not comparable in volume and character with other processed food selling. Equipment should be designed with an eye to a marked expansion in commercial frozen food sales, variety of products, and types of outlets.

These conditions and objectives were the basis for a conference on post-war frozen food equipment problems held in Washington October 31 and November 1 in the United States Department of Agriculture. An interbureau working group sponsored the conference and represented the Department in the discussions. Representatives of the War Production Board and of the Office of Price Administration attended the meetings. Several frozen food packers and distributors represented the National Association of Frozen Food Packers, and a number of retail food store organizations were represented. Nearly all of the manufacturers of refrigerated equipment for the farm, home, and store were represented at the conference, in many cases by several officials interested in both production and sales.

Similar conferences are contemplated in connection with other phases of the Department's post-war planning in the field of marketing facilities. The war has brought so many technical and other changes affecting facility requirements and marketing methods that it is desirable to have the interests of farmers and the public considered by equipment manufacturers when plans are made for resumption of activities.

ECONOMICAL DEVICE NEEDED FOR RECONSTITUTING DRIED MILK AND EGGS

During the war the production of dried milk and powdered eggs has been increased tremendously to meet the needs of the Armed Forces and lend-lease. Soon the problem will arise of what to do with the plants which have been built for this purpose. A recent consumer survey, reported in the July issue of The Marketing and Transportation Situation, indicates a better consumer reaction to dehydrated products, including milk and eggs, than many people in the trade expected. One problem in connection with the marketing of powdered milk and eggs after the war is to develop a cheap and simple method of getting the powder back into solution. This problem is particularly important for dried milk. It can be mixed by shaking in a fruit jar, but the powder tends to lump and some of it may stick to the side of the jar. Some of the beaters available before the war tend to throw the powdered milk or eggs out toward the sides of the bowl, where it will lump or stick. Other mixers, although satisfactory for reconstituting these products, cost too much for mass sales to low income families. Following a recent conference with representatives of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics and the War Food Administration, several manufacturers of kitchen equipment are now attempting to develop a gadget that will meet the requirements: Low in cost, easy to use, mixing the product thoroughly without lumping or sticking.

THE USE OF THE AIRPLANE AS A CONTRACT CARRIER OF AGRICULTURAL PERISHABLES 1/

Agriculture is interested in air transportation as a more efficient method of moving farm products to market and as a way of opening new markets for post-war surpluses of perishable agricultural commodities. The size of this new market

1/ Bureau of Agricultural Economics and Edward S. Evans Transportation Research.

depends upon: (1) The extent to which air transportation causes an increase in the demand for the product, (2) the extent to which various handling costs are decreased when the products are shipped by air, (3) the absolute as well as the relative costs of air transportation. The cost of air transportation is apparently greatly influenced by the type of air carrier operation used.

The present airlines and railroads and some trucking firms operate as "common carriers." The common carrier is under a duty to serve the general public without unjust discrimination or undue preference at reasonable rates which must be published and filed with proper regulatory bodies. Usually the common carrier travels designated routes, makes scheduled stops, and accepts all traffic offered by shippers, in conformity with its published tariffs and within its capacity to serve. The term "contract carrier" is applied to all other carriers who transport in interstate or foreign commerce for compensation. A contract carrier does not undertake to transport for all who apply, but limits his service to specific shippers under special and individual contracts. In the case of motor carriers, where the type of operation is most commonly found, the carriers are required to publish and file with the Interstate Commerce Commission schedules of minimum rates and charges.

The contract-carrier type of air transport operation makes possible certain economies in handling air-freight shipments which apparently result in lower costs of operation than for common carriers. The 10-cent ton-mile cost of operating C-47 planes, as shown in the report "Post-War Air Transportation of Fresh Strawberries and Tomatoes from Florida to Detroit, Michigan" ^{2/}, and the 6.55 cents per ton-mile cost of operating C-54A planes, as shown in the report "Post-War Air-Transport Costs and Markets for Lettuce" ^{3/}, illustrate the economies which may be possible. The purpose of this analysis is to examine further the basis for the assumptions made in these cost studies.

Utilization of Surplus War Transport Ships and Pilots

Any freight airline beginning operations within the next few years might utilize surplus war transport ships of the type of the C-47 and the C-54A. By the end of 1945, it has been officially estimated, about 15,000 planes suitable for hauling cargo will be owned by the Government. The freight airline can readily use ships that have been in active military service 2 or 3 years. These ships may be disposed of to airline operators at "a low yearly value times expected years of economic life" as provided for in the report on surplus aircraft disposal ^{4/}. Ships so purchased probably could be operated over a period of 5 years or more at very low amortized capital cost. Quantities of surplus parts also may be available under certain conditions.

A large number of demobilized Army and Navy personnel probably will be available at wages commensurate with other occupations of similar skill and risk.

Eight-Plane Fleet Operation

Available cost figures indicate, although not conclusively, that airlines of medium size have unit costs as low as or lower than much larger airlines, and that a condition of constant costs seems to characterize the industry after a certain scale of operations has been reached. This is illustrated in table 1.

^{2/} Ibid, March 1944.

^{3/} Ibid, July 1944.

^{4/} Disposal of Surplus Aircraft and Major Components Thereof. Report of the War Contracts Subcommittee to the Committee on Military Affairs, June 26, 1944.

Table 1.- Operating cost per seat-mile by size of airplane company,
fiscal year ended June 30, 1941 ^{1/}

Airline	Number of	Miles of	Revenue	Daily	Operating
	all types	route	seats	schedule	cost per
	of trans-	flown per	mile	frequency	seat-mile
	port planes	Dec. 31, 1941:	3/	3/	3/
	2/				
	Number	Number	Number	Number	Cents
American	79	6,694	18.0	12.7	3.80
United	67	5,280	15.6	13.3	4.42
Transcontinental & Western:	42	5,660	17.1	9.2	4.34
Average	62.7	5,878	16.9	11.7	4.19
Northwest	15	2,873	20.0	5.9	3.24
Penn-Central	22	3,300	18.9	5.2	3.88
Braniff	16	2,595	17.7	5.6	3.34
Average	17.7	2,923	18.9	5.6	3.49
Chicago and Southern	6	1,450	19.9	5.6	3.36
Western	12	1,202	14.4	6.4	4.35
Delta	8	1,720	14.0	6.4	3.71
Mid-Continent	9	1,928	11.4	3.8	5.22
Average	8.8	1,575	14.9	5.6	4.16
National	5	954	11.7	4.3	3.67
Continental	6	1,283	9.9	3.2	5.43
Inland	5	1,151	10.0	2.7	4.53
Northeast	4	868	9.0	4.9	5.96
Average	5.0	1,064	10.2	3.8	4.90

^{1/} Eastern Airlines, operating 40 planes and having an operating cost per seat-mile of 2.82 cents, was omitted because its costs are not comparable with the other airlines. It has operated unchallenged until recently on its eastern sea-board route.

^{2/} Civil Aeronautics Board, Economic Bureau Research and Analysis Division.

^{3/} "Air Transportation Industry," E. F. Hutton & Company, New York, October 1944.

On December 31, 1941, Northwest Airlines owned 11 DC-3's and 4 Electras, Penn-Central Airlines owned 18 DC-3's and 4 247-D's, and Braniff Airlines owned 11 DC-3's and 5 DC-2's, or an average of 17.7 transport planes apiece. Converted into cargo-carrying capacity of C-54A's this would be equivalent to about an 8-plane fleet. This would provide a sufficient number of planes to have 6 in operation and 2 in reserve. On long hauls, 3 ships would be flying daily in one direction and 3 would be flying in the opposite direction. It is recognized that costs for an all-freight operation may be different than for passenger operation, and also that the relation between total plane capacity and efficiency of operation may be different for C-54A's than for C-47's.

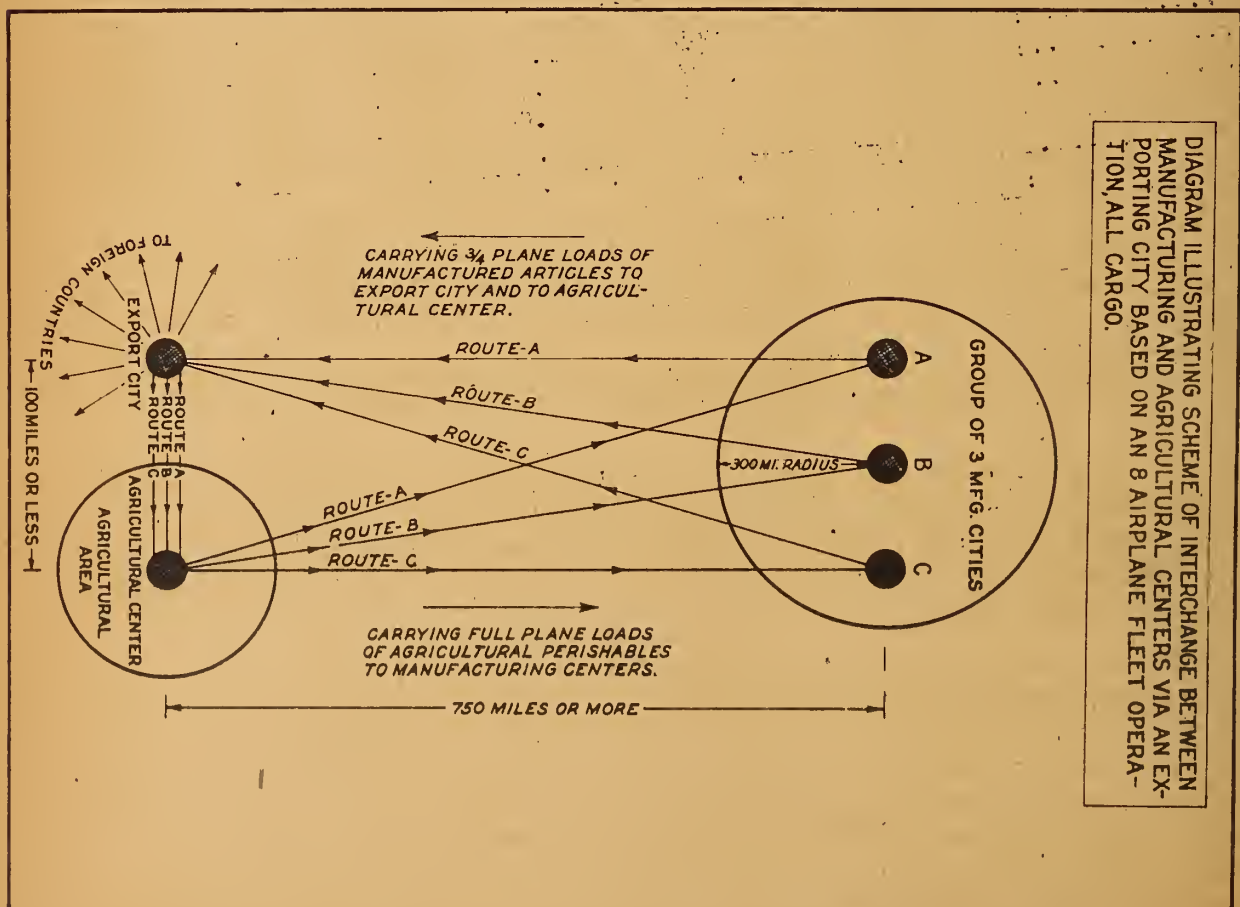
Interchange Agricultural Perishables with Industrial Commodities

The contract carrier operation should be based on the interchange of agricultural products and manufactured products (see accompanying diagram). An all-freight

operation probably could succeed only with difficulty in the movement of either agricultural or manufactured products exclusively. The quantities interchanged must be fairly constant. The principal movement of commodities probably will be perishable agricultural products from West to East and South to North, with industrial products on the return haul. No doubt there would be some contrary minor movement of commodities.

It probably will be possible to provide full planeloads of agricultural perishables to move by air from extensive agricultural areas to metropolitan centers, but it probably will not be possible, at least in the beginning, to merchandise and ship by air a sufficient quantity of manufactured articles to provide full planeloads from a manufacturing center to an agricultural center. At present there are no data available which will give an indication of how large the East-West or North-South load will be. For this reason, the studies on contract carrier operation between Salinas, California, and Detroit, Michigan, and between Miami or Lakeland, Florida, to Detroit have assumed a 100 percent load factor East or North bound and a 75 percent load factor West or South bound.

In the study on the air-freight potential of lettuce, the East bound cost based on a 100 percent load factor was 6.55 cents per ton-mile while the West bound cost based on a 75 percent load factor was 9.08 cents per ton-mile. In actual practice it may be desirable to assess part of the West bound expenses to the East bound traffic. This question involves broad transportation policy as well as matters of additional fact which can be determined only by further extensive investigations.



Link by Direct Route Metropolitan Centers with
Agricultural Area at Least 750 Miles Distant

The route for a contract carrier operation between a manufacturing center and an agricultural center should be as direct as possible. It should be along an established airway equipped to permit night flying. In order to justify the cost of air transportation between these two centers they should be at least 750 miles apart. Preliminary research indicates that air-borne agricultural perishable products could compete most advantageously with surface-borne products when transported between 1,000 to 1,500 miles.

The metropolitan centers should be a combination of cities so that sufficient cargo may be collected for the West or South bound movement. For efficient operation of the eight-plane fleet, the centers should be within an approximate radius of 300 miles. This principle is illustrated in the lettuce study, the five large cities other than Detroit being within a 300-mile radius of Detroit. It may develop that in Detroit, Chicago, and Cleveland there exists enough industrial cargo for only one plane daily from each of these cities. On the other hand, it may develop that Detroit or Chicago could furnish enough cargo to justify operating the eight-ship fleet solely from the one city. The essential thing is to have the airline terminal situated so that a combination of cities can be used in order to get maximum utilization from the eight-plane fleet. The metropolitan center should be a manufacturing city which produces a variety of relatively high-priced manufactured articles.

Agricultural Area Located Close to
Sizable Export City

To insure a sufficient volume of manufactured products for the return load it would be desirable that the area originating the agricultural shipments be within 100 miles of an important exporting city for manufactured products. This city should be a focal point of transport lines, preferably airlines, to a number of foreign countries. The market for manufactured goods is thus materially extended by the inclusion of an extensive foreign market in which the time factor is a most important consideration.

An example of the combination of an agricultural area with an adjacent exporting city is San Francisco, which is close to the lettuce-producing area of the Salinas Valley as well as areas producing a wide variety of other agricultural perishables. San Francisco is a port of departure for air commerce with the Orient and Australia. Another example is Tampa, adjacent to the Plant City-Lakeland agricultural district of Florida and a port of departure for air commerce to Latin America.

Airplanes carrying industrial commodities from a manufacturing center would fly direct to the exporting city adjacent to an agricultural area and unload there the commodities for the domestic and foreign market served by the exporting city. The plane would then fly to the neighboring agricultural center and pick up its return load of perishables.

Perishables Should be Available in Producing
Center the Entire Year

To maximize the development of the East-West or North-South load of industrial products, it probably will be necessary to fly to the same terminal city during the entire year. If shipments of perishables are not available during the entire year, the pay load of the planes may be reduced to such an extent that the entire operation will not be feasible.

The originating point for perishables can be shifted with relatively little difficulty to any point within 300 to 400 miles of the terminus of the East-West or North-South shipments, but greater shifting causes difficulty. The lettuce report illustrates this principle. San Francisco is the terminal for industrial products and suitable perishables are available within 300 to 400 miles of the city for shipment during the entire year.

Fast Schedules Maintained

Speed in transit is the airplane's principal advantage over other means of transportation. A scheduled flight would leave the manufacturing center after the close of each business day while the opposite flight would bring agricultural perishables in time for early morning market. Within a relatively wide latitude, the time of departure and arrival could be regulated according to the nature of the commodity. As only fuel stops would be made, the resulting schedule would be faster than any scheduled airline over established airways between the manufacturing center and the exporting city. This would be of great value to the industries of the manufacturing metropolis.

FARM-RETAIL PRICE SPREADS, OCTOBER 1944

Food Marketing Charges Drop 2 Percent September to October

Marketing charges on quantities of farm food products contained in a family market basket declined nearly 2 percent from a revised level of \$227 in September to \$223 in October, continuing a decline in food marketing charges beginning in July of this year.

Estimates of marketing charges for the family market basket have been revised for March 1944 and succeeding months. These changes, beginning with April, were caused by a revision in the retail price of apples which lowered the estimated retail value of the market basket by \$2 to \$7 during the 6 months, April through September. Estimates of marketing charges include \$12 in Government payments to marketing agencies in October added to the farm-retail spread of \$211 between retail cost to consumers and payments to farmers for equivalent produce. October marketing charges were the lowest in 6 months and were slightly below the \$225 for October 1943.

The Farmer's Share Rises to 53 Cents in October

The farmer's share of the consumer's dollar spent for farm food products rose from 52 cents in September to 53 cents in October 1944. Revisions increased the farmer's share from 51 cents to 52 cents for each of the 3 months, June through August. The farmer's share continues to hold close to the near record high of 54 cents reached in December 1943 and March 1944. Government payments to marketing agencies are an important factor in maintaining this level of the farmer's share.

Food Prices Fall at Retail, Rise at Farm

Retail cost to consumers of the farm food products included in the family market basket dropped from a revised level of \$450 in September to \$448 in October. The market basket includes 1935-39 average annual purchases of farm food products by a family of three average consumers. Beginning with April 1944, revisions in the retail cost of the market basket resulted in reductions ranging from \$2 in April to \$7 in July. The October 1944 retail cost of the market basket was lower by \$6 than the retail cost in October of 1943.

Revision of the retail price of apples caused a reduction of \$4.60 in the estimated retail cost of the fresh fruits and vegetables commodity group for September 1944, showing a revised cost of \$97 compared to \$102 estimated last month. The entire group of all fresh and processed fruits and vegetables showed a decline in retail cost from \$123 in September to \$117 in October. Most of this decline was caused by lower prices for fresh vegetables, particularly snap beans, sweetpotatoes, and onions, for which decreases ranged from 14 to 18 percent. Lower prices for fresh fruits and vegetables were largely offset by higher retail prices for poultry and eggs. Retail cost of poultry and eggs included in the market basket rose by 9 percent, from about \$42 in September to \$46 in October.

Payments to farmers for quantities of produce equivalent to the food items in the market basket increased less than half of 1 percent from September to October 1944, and are 1 percent lower than in October of 1943. A 5 percent decline in payments to producers of fruits and vegetables offset most of the increase in payments to producers of other food products, which averaged 6 percent for poultry and eggs, 3 percent for bakery and other cereal products, and 1 percent for meat and dairy products. Lower payments to producers of fresh vegetables were in line with reduced prices at retail. For grapefruit, a September-October decline of 44 percent in payments to farmers accompanied a decline of 17 percent in the retail price paid by consumers.

Marketing Charges Lower for Meats, Fruits, and Vegetables, Higher for Poultry and Eggs

Reductions in marketing charges from October to September contributing to the 1 percent decline for the market basket were quite general among commodity groups excepting poultry and eggs for which they showed a substantial increase. Declines in marketing charges over the month averaged 4 percent for meat products, 1 percent for dairy products, and 8 percent for fresh vegetables, while marketing charges for poultry and eggs increased 16 percent from \$13 in September to \$15 in October. Estimates of lower marketing charges for meat products continue to be influenced by the abnormally low margin shown for Good grade beef. A major factor underlying the estimate of the 4.4 cents per pound farm-retail price spread for beef products is the estimated premium of Good grade beef cattle over average beef cattle, amounting to 12 cents at the farm level per composite retail pound. If the margin were calculated directly from the average price of all beef cattle sold by farmers it would amount to about 14.7 cents in October instead of the 4.4 cents calculated from the estimated price of Good grade cattle.

From September to October, charges for marketing showed increases of 18 percent for poultry and 14 percent for eggs, averaging 16 percent for the poultry and eggs group. The retail price of eggs rose 11 percent from 51.4 cents per dozen in September to 56.9 cents in October, while payments to farmers advanced 9 percent from 36.6 cents to 40.0 cents. Payments to farmers for chickens showed a negligible increase from September to October, while retail prices advanced 7 percent from 41.3 to 44.0 cents per pound.

Total marketing charges for the family market basket in October 1944 were about \$23 higher than the 1935-39 average. Among commodity groups, charges for marketing the meat products group are lowest in comparison with pre-war, showing a decline of \$12 or 30 percent. Charges for marketing poultry and eggs in October were about \$6 or 35 percent above pre-war, while the greatest increase is shown for the fruits and vegetables group, which rose by about \$17 or 31 percent.

Table 2.- THE MARKET BASKET: Retail cost of 1935-39 average annual purchases of farm food products by a family of three average consumers, farm value of equivalent quantities sold by producers adjusted for value of byproducts, marketing margin, and farmer's share of the consumer's food dollar, 1913-44

Year	Retail cost ^{1/}	Farm value adjusted for byproducts ^{2/}	Margin	Marketing charges (including tax and payment adjustments) ^{3/}	Farmer's share ^{4/}	Marketing charges as percentage of retail cost
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent
1913-15 average:	268	123	145	145	46	54
1920	568	245	323	323	43	57
1922	408	163	245	245	40	60
1929	435	183	252	252	42	58
1933	276	90	186	184	33	67
1935-39 average:	340	137	203	201	40	59
1940	317	128	189	189	40	60
1941	347	154	193	193	44	56
1942	407	196	211	211	48	52
1943	458	237	221	226	52	49
1943-October ..	454	238	216	225	52	50
November ..	452	239	213	223	53	49
December ..	452	242	210	221	54	49
1944-January ..	453	242	211	223	53	49
February ..	449	239	210	222	53	49
March	447	5/240	5/207	5/220	54	49
April	5/449	238	5/211	5/224	53	50
May	5/451	235	5/216	5/229	52	51
June	5/453	236	5/217	5/229	5/52	51
July	5/456	235	5/221	5/233	5/52	5/51
August	5/454	236	5/218	5/229	5/52	5/50
September :	5/450	5/235	5/215	5/227	52	5/50
October ...	448	237	211	223	53	50

^{1/} Calculated from retail prices collected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

^{2/} Payments to farmers for equivalent quantities of farm produce minus imputed value of byproducts obtained in processing.

^{3/} Marketing charges equal margin minus processor taxes plus Government payments to marketing agencies.

^{4/} Farmer's share of consumer's food dollar calculated from farm value before addition of producer payments.

^{5/} Revised.

Table 5. - Price spreads between farmers and consumers - food products: Retail price, farm value of equivalent quantities sold by producers, byproduct adjustment, marketing margin, and farmer's share of retail price, October 1944

Commodity	Unit	Farm equivalent	Retail	By-product					Margin adjusted for by-products	Farmer's share	Government marketing taxes (-) and payments (+)	Adjusted: marketing margin: to producers	Government: payments to processors	Adjusted: marketing margin: to farmers	Adjusted: farmer's share
				Retail price	Gross farm value	By-product: value	Net farm value	Margin							
Dollars Dollars Dollars Dollars Dollars Percent Dollars Dollars Dollars Dollars Percent															
Market basket				446.19	235.75	---	256.73	211.46	65	-0.37 + 12.64	225.73	10.61	247.54	55	
Meat products				100.45	55.48	5.14	78.34	22.11	78	+ 5.40	29.51	---	78.34	78	
Dairy products				56.85	52.15	---	52.15	36.57	59	+ 2.63	58.30	9.84	63.02	70	
Poultry and eggs		1935-39 annual average		45.54	30.61	---	30.61	14.95	57	---	14.95	---	30.61	57	
Bakery and other cereal products, all ingredients		Farm produce equivalent of annual family purchases		63.94	---	---	19.15	44.79	30	-.05 + 1.84	44.60	.30	15.45	39	
Grain				---	15.69	3.78	14.51	---	23	+ 1.71	---	---	---	---	
Bakery products, all ingred.				39.83	---	---	9.28	29.67	34	-.05 + .05	30.47	.30	6.04	25	
Grain				---	5.09	1.17	4.82	---	15	+ .30	---	---	---	---	
Other cereal products				25.11	12.50	2.81	9.69	10.22	56	+ .91	15.16	---	5.89	39	
All fruits and vegetables				117.11	47.82	---	47.82	69.69	41	+ 1.28	70.85	---	47.62	41	
Fresh fruits and vegetables ..				51.69	59.82	---	59.82	51.77	45	+ .09	61.06	---	59.92	45	
Fresh vegetables				50.14	50.11	---	50.11	30.03	40	---	30.03	---	30.11	40	
Canned fruits and vegetables ..				17.11	4.11	---	4.11	15.00	24	+ .64	13.64	---	4.11	24	
Miscellaneous products				32.55	8.93	---	5.93	53.55	25	-.52 + .46	23.62	.47	5.40	29	
Cents Cents Cents Cents Cents Percent Cents Cents Cents Percent															
Beef (good grade)	2.15 lb. good grade cattle	Pound		32.8	1/33.5	4.5	28.5	4.4	57	+ 2.0	5.4	---	28.5	57	
Lamb	5.16 lb. lambs	Pound		35.0	25.4	5.6	20.3	14.5	59	+ 1.6	15.1	---	30.5	59	
Pork (including lard)	1.41 lb. hogs	Pound		25.5	19.5	0.6	19.5	8.3	78	+ 1.6	5.1	---	19.2	78	
Butter	Butterfat and farm butter	Pound		49.9	41.2	---	41.2	7.7	84	+ 5.0	12.7	5.37	60.9	102	
Cheese, American	10.08 lb. milk	Pound		57.8	28.1	---	28.1	11.8	88	+ 5.77	15.8	5.27	52.1	85	
Evaporated milk	1.95 lb. milk	14-oz. can		10.4	5.64	---	5.64	4.8	84	---	4.8	1.35	6.99	87	
Fluid milk	Farm retail and wholesale milk	Quart		14.7	8.98	---	8.98	5.7	61	+ .99	5.8	1.69	10.59	78	
Eggs	1.05 doz.	Dozen		56.0	40.0	---	40.0	24.0	70	---	24.0	---	40.0	70	
Chicken	1.136 lb. chickens	Pound		44.9	27.0	---	27.0	17.9	62	---	17.9	---	27.0	62	
White bread .....	.512 lb. wheat	Pound		9.5	2.15	.63	1.73	7.8	18	+ .31	2.0	---	1.79	18	
Whole wheat bread .....	.490 lb. wheat	Pound		10.2	1.98	.18	1.80	8.7	15	+ .10	2.9	---	1.80	15	
Rye bread .....	.652 lb. wheat and .304 lb. rye	Pound		10.9	5.13	.38	1.78	8.7	17	+ .13	8.0	---	1.78	17	
Soda crackers	1.406 lb. wheat	Pound		18.1	5.24	.67	2.67	15.4	15	+ .80	15.7	---	2.67	15	
Corn flakes	1.06 lb. corn	8-oz. pkg.		5.5	2.42	.90	1.52	5.1	25	---	5.1	---	1.52	25	
Corn meal	1.845 lb. corn	Pound		5.5	2.71	.49	2.65	3.5	35	---	3.5	---	2.65	35	
Flour, white	1.41 lb. wheat	Pound		5.7	6.64	.67	2.67	5.0	47	+ .31	5.8	---	2.67	47	
Macaroni	1.99 lb. wheat	Pound		15.7	4.82	1.89	2.83	12.8	15	+ .65	15.5	---	2.83	15	
Rice	1.69 lb. rough rice	Pound		12.0	8.35	.91	5.44	5.8	45	---	5.8	---	5.44	45	
Rolls oats	3.05 lb. oats	Pound		10.1	4.22	.86	5.67	5.7	33	---	5.7	---	5.67	33	
Wheat cereal	5.017 lb. wheat	12-oz. pkg.		56.2	7.14	1.18	5.80	17.6	25	+ .73	17.8	---	5.80	24	
Apples .....	.0824 bu. apples	Pound		5.4	4.59	---	4.59	4.5	69	+ .08	4.9	---	4.59	49	
Grapefruit .....	.0163 box for fresh use	Box		5.7	2.82	---	2.82	5.8	34	---	5.8	---	2.82	34	
Oranges .....	.0613 box for fresh use	Box		47.2	22.1	---	22.1	25.1	47	---	25.1	---	22.1	47	
Beets .....	.0855 bu. beets for market	Bushel		7.8	2.72	---	2.72	4.5	56	---	4.5	---	2.72	56	
Beans, snap .....	.0878 bu. snap beans for market	Pound		14.8	8.55	---	8.55	5.1	44	---	5.1	---	8.55	44	
Cabbage	1.10 lb. cabbage for market	Pound		4.5	1.28	---	1.28	3.0	30	---	3.0	---	1.28	30	
Carrots .....	.0222 bu.	Bushel		6.9	3.22	---	3.22	5.7	34	---	5.7	---	3.22	34	
Lettuce .....	.0231 crt.	Head		12.1	8.28	---	8.28	3.8	54	---	3.8	---	8.28	54	
Onions	1.09 lb.	Pound		6.1	1.44	---	1.44	5.7	29	---	5.7	---	1.44	29	
Potatoes .....	.0174 bu.	Pound		4.4	2.47	---	2.47	1.8	64	---	1.8	---	2.47	58	
Spinach .....	.0259 bu. for market	Pound		11.7	7.90	---	7.90	8.7	50	---	8.7	---	7.90	50	
Sweet potatoes .....	.0204 bu.	Pound		6.2	3.77	---	3.77	2.4	31	---	2.4	---	3.77	31	
Grapefruit juice, canned .....	.045 box grapefruit for processing	No. 2 can		14.8	4.85	---	4.85	5.5	23	---	5.5	---	4.85	23	
Peaches, canned	1.59 lb. California cling peaches	No. 2 can		27.5	8.79	---	8.79	21.0	24	---	21.0	---	8.79	24	
Beans, green, canned .....	.65 lb. snap beans for processing	No. 2 can		15.1	5.85	---	5.85	9.2	25	+ .9	10.1	---	5.85	25	
Corn, canned	16.08 lb. sweet corn for processing	No. 2 can		14.6	2.64	---	2.64	12.1	19	+ .7	12.6	---	2.64	19	
Peas, canned .....	.89 lb. peas for processing	No. 2 can		16.8	5.11	---	5.11	10.2	23	+ 1.6	11.8	---	5.11	23	
Tomatoes, canned	2.41 lb. tomatoes for processing	No. 2 can		12.1	2.90	---	2.90	9.2	24	+ .5	10.1	---	2.90	24	
Prunes	1 lb. dried California prunes	Pound		17.2	5.62	---	5.62	7.6	38	+ 2.8	10.4	---	5.62	38	
Navy beans	1 lb. Mich. and N. Y. pea beans	Pound		10.2	5.57	---	5.57	4.2	56	+ .5	4.7	---	5.57	52	
Beet sugar	7.84 lbs. sugar beets	Pound		7.1	3.07	.18	5.91	4.3	41	-.04 + .49	4.2	.06	5.77	33	
Cane sugar	12.89 lbs. sugar cane	Pound		8.0	2.93	.25	5.69	4.5	30	-.54 + .16	5.8	.04	3.52	31	
Corn syrup .....	.084 bu. corn	54 oz.		15.0	5.84	1.12	2.71	10.3	31	---	10.3	---	2.71	31	
Margarine	Cottonseed, soybeans, and skim milk	Pound		24.1	---	---	6.60	15.5	35	-.51 + .23	15.6	---	6.60	35	
Salt and cooking oil	Cottonseed and corn	Pint		59.6	---	---	6.72	21.8	28	---	21.8	---	6.72	28	
Vegetable shortening	Cottonseed and soybeans	Pound		25.3	---	---	10.17	15.4	43	+ .16	16.5	---	10.17	43	
Peanut butter	1.72 lb. farmers' stock peanuts	Pound		25.5	14.4	---	14.4	11.4	58	+ 4.8	16.9	---	14.4	58	

✓ Gross farm value before adjusting for good grade premium was \$1.8 cents.

Table 4.- Price spreads between farmers and consumers - food products: Retail price and farm value, October 1944 compared with the 1935-39 average, October 1943 and September 1944

Commodity	Retail unit	Retail price						Net farm value 1/					
		1935-39 average	October 1943	September 1944	October 1944	Percentage change to October 1944 from -		1935-39 average	October 1943	September 1944	October 1944	Percentage change to October 1944 from -	
						October 1943	September 1944					October 1943	September 1944
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent
Market basket		340.47	458.73	2/450.06	448.15	- 1	5/	187.45	2/238.66	2/235.56	238.73	- 1	5/
Meat products		88.09	102.89	2/100.60	100.45	- 2	9/	46.55	2/76.16	2/77.29	78.94	+ 5	+ 1
Dairy products		87.27	88.08	85.95	88.85	+ 1	9/	33.47	52.03	51.84	52.15	3/	+ 1
Poultry and eggs		28.47	46.63	41.82	45.85	- 2	+ 5	17.56	33.57	25.91	30.61	- 10	+ 6
Bakery and other cereal products:	1935-39 annual average	58.09	62.61	2/63.37	63.94	+ 2	9/	11.89	2/16.64	2/15.53	19.13	+ 8	+ 5
All ingredients	quantities purchased, per family of three average consumers	---	---	---	---	---	---	9.04	2/14.16	14.27	14.61	+ 6	+ 4
Bakery products:		36.88	38.47	2/38.85	38.83	+ 1	0	8.41	9.12	2/6.93	8.26	+ 2	+ 3
All ingredients		---	---	---	---	---	---	3.06	4.67	4.72	4.92	+ 5	+ 4
Other cereal products		16.46	24.14	2/28.04	25.11	+ 4	5/	5.96	2/9.52	9.55	9.69	+ 4	+ 4
All fruits and vegetables		77.33	120.61	2/122.64	117.11	- 3	- 4	28.61	2/49.41	2/50.15	47.52	- 4	- 5
Fresh fruits and vegetables		87.64	94.87	97.01	91.69	- 8	- 6	20.50	2/42.28	42.41	36.82	- 5	- 5
Fresh vegetables		33.32	81.58	84.30	80.14	- 3	- 5	11.48	2/22.19	2/21.74	20.11	- 5	- 7
Canned fruits and vegetables		14.14	17.49	17.09	17.11	- 2	3/	1.92	3.96	2/4.17	4.11	+ 4	- 1
Miscellaneous products		28.97	82.90	32.26	32.28	- 2	0	4.77	2/8.48	2/8.65	5.93	+ 5	0
<hr/>													
Beef (good grade)	Pound	29.1	33.9	32.9	32.8	- 3	0	16.2	25.3	2/23.0	25.8	+ 5	+ 2
Lamb	Pound	28.8	38.4	2/34.6	35.0	- 1	3/	19.2	20.4	20.5	20.5	3/	2/
Pork (including lard)	Pound	22.6	25.0	25.6	23.8	- 2	3/	11.7	19.8	18.9	19.3	- 2	+ 2
Butter	Pound	35.0	49.3	46.0	48.9	- 1	3/	26.6	2/41.8	41.1	41.2	- 1	5/
Cheese, American	Pound	28.9	37.2	37.5	37.9	+ 2	0	18.6	23.4	23.9	25.1	- 1	+ 2
Evaporated milk	14-oz. can	7.5	10.8	10.4	10.4	- 1	0	2.96	5.50	2/5.46	5.64	+ 5	+ 4
Fluid milk	Quart	11.4	14.4	14.7	14.7	+ 2	0	8.32	8.87	8.92	8.98	+ 1	+ 1
Eggs	Dozen	29.0	60.5	51.4	56.9	- 8	+ 11	22.5	46.6	36.5	40.0	- 14	+ 9
Chicken	Pound	30.0	42.4	41.8	44.0	+ 4	+ 7	18.9	27.9	25.9	27.0	- 5	5/
White bread	Pound	9.1	9.4	9.8	9.5	+ 1	0	1.08	1.64	1.64	1.73	+ 6	+ 4
Whole wheat bread	Pound	9.5	10.4	10.2	10.2	- 2	0	.90	1.43	1.43	1.60	+ 8	+ 5
Rye bread	Pound	10.0	10.7	10.8	10.5	- 2	0	1.04	1.66	1.67	1.75	+ 5	+ 5
Soda crackers	Pound	18.0	17.7	15.1	18.1	+ 2	0	1.67	2.54	2.54	2.67	+ 5	+ 4
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg.	7.9	8.7	8.6	8.5	- 1	0	.94	1.42	1.55	1.52	+ 7	- 5
Corn meal	Pound	5.0	8.1	5.7	5.8	+ 14	+ 2	1.40	2.12	2.25	2.23	+ 5	- 6
Flour, white	Pound	8.9	8.5	5.7	5.7	+ 4	0	1.67	2.84	2.56	2.67	+ 5	+ 4
Macaroni	Pound	14.6	15.5	16.7	15.7	+ 1	0	1.87	2.60	2.79	2.83	+ 5	+ 1
Rice	Pound	7.2	11.6	2/12.0	12.0	+ 5	0	2.87	2/5.57	5.12	5.44	- 2	+ 5
Rollod oats	Pound	7.5	8.9	10.0	10.1	+ 15	+ 1	1.74	5.81	5.81	5.37	- 12	+ 2
Wheat cereal	16-oz. pkg.	24.2	25.4	25.2	25.2	- 1	0	6.66	5.65	6.59	5.98	+ 6	+ 5
Apples	Pound	4.9	5.5	2/9.5	6.4	- 1	+ 1	2.03	4.68	4.51	4.59	- 2	3/
Grapefruit	Each	9/	9.5	10.5	8.7	- 6	- 17	4/	2.93	5.25	2.92	5/	- 44
Oranges	Dozen	29.5	50.5	48.2	47.2	- 7	- 2	11.0	22.1	28.4	22.1	0	- 16
Beets	Bunch	4/	5.0	7.7	7.5	- 6	- 1	2/	3/3.63	2/2.72	2.72	- 25	0
Beans, snap	Pound	11.8	17.5	17.0	14.8	- 17	- 15	5/4.49	2/6.00	2/9.94	5.58	- 29	- 36
Cabbage	Pound	5.4	4.2	4.6	4.8	+ 2	- 7	5/6.81	2/1.83	2/1.99	1.29	- 50	- 35
Carrots	Bunch	6.4	9.6	3.6	8.9	- 7	0	5/2.69	5.44	2/3.66	5.22	- 6	- 22
Lettuce	Head	8.7	18.0	12.0	12.1	- 7	+ 1	5/3.61	2/6.01	7.39	6.55	+ 9	- 11
Onions	Pound	4.5	7.3	8.9	8.1	- 50	- 14	2/1.50	2.71	2/1.31	1.44	- 47	- 20
Potatoes	Pound	2.5	4.0	4.7	4.4	+ 19	- 6	3/2.25	2.23	2.66	2.47	+ 11	- 4
Spinach	Pound	7.2	10.8	13.2	11.7	+ 14	- 11	2/3.04	2/5.42	2/8.93	7.96	+ 47	- 11
Sweetpotatoes	Pound	4.0	7.2	7.6	5.2	- 14	- 16	2/1.85	4.00	4.47	3.77	- 6	- 13
Grapefruit juice, canned	No. 2 can	4/	14.8	14.7	14.8	0	+ 1	4/	4.82	5.04	4.95	+ 15	- 2
Peaches, canned	No. 2 1/2 can	15.7	25.4	25.0	27.6	+ 5	- 1	2.88	8.84	6.89	6.79	+ 18	- 1
Beans, green, canned	No. 2 can	11.4	14.4	18.1	18.1	- 9	0	1.95	4.05	2/8.96	8.98	- 6	- 5
Corn, canned	No. 2 can	12.1	14.4	14.8	14.6	+ 6	+ 1	1.80	2.60	2.83	2.84	+ 9	3/
Peas, canned	No. 2 can	15.6	14.5	15.2	13.3	- 5	+ 1	2.29	8.45	2/3.15	6.11	- 10	- 1
Tomatoes, canned	No. 2 can	9.4	12.5	12.1	12.1	- 3	0	1.45	8.03	2/2.98	2.90	- 4	- 6
Prunes	Pound	10.0	19.6	17.8	17.2	+ 2	- 2	2.99	7.79	9.22	9.62	+ 23	+ 4
Heavy beans	Pound	8.5	9.8	10.2	10.2	+ 6	0	6.08	5.59	8.97	6.97	+ 1	0
Beet sugar	Pound	5.7	7.2	7.1	7.1	- 1	0	1.73	2.56	2.91	2.91	+ 23	0
Cane sugar	Pound	8.8	7.0	6.9	3.9	- 1	0	1.79	2.55	2.68	2.63	+ 5	0
Corn sirup	24 oz.	11.8	18.1	18.0	16.0	- 1	0	1.79	2.82	2.78	2.71	+ 8	- 3
Margarine	Pound	18.1	24.0	24.0	24.1	3/	3/	4.30	8.35	8.46	8.50	+ 2	3/
Saled and cooking oil	Pint	24.5	30.6	30.3	30.6	0	0	4.44	9.11	8.82	8.72	- 4	- 1
Vegetable shortening	Pound	19.6	23.7	23.8	23.8	3/	0	6.21	10.01	10.16	10.17	+ 2	6/
Peanut butter	Pound	17.6	30.6	23.3	28.6	- 13	0	6.1	2/13.9	2/14.0	14.4	+ 4	+ 5

1/ Adjusted to exclude imputed value of non-food byproducts obtained in processing.

2/ Revised.

3/ Less than 0.5 of one percent.

4/ Price data not available.

5/ Estimated for 1935-39 from data available for 1937-39.

Table 5.- Price spreads between farmers and consumers - food products: Margins, and farm value as percentage of retail price, October 1944 compared with the 1935-39 average, October 1943 and September 1944

Commodity	Retail unit	Margins 1/					Farm value as percentage of retail price				
		1935-39 average	October 1943	September 1944	October 1944	Percentage change to	1935-39 average	October 1943	September 1944	October 1944	
						October 1944 from:	October 1944	October 1944	October 1944	October 1944	
						October 1943	October 1944	October 1944	October 1944	October 1944	
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Market basket		208.02	2/215.16	2/214.50	211.46	- 2	- 1	40	53	52	53
Meat products		41.74	2/26.76	2/23.40	22.11	- 17	- 6	33	74	77	78
Dairy products		83.50	2/36.05	2/37.11	36.67	+ 2	- 1	50	39	56	59
Poultry and eggs	1935-39 annual average	8.91	12.76	12.91	14.95	+ 17	+ 16	66	75	69	67
Bakery and other cereal products, all ingredients	quantities purchased, per family of three	43.70	2/45.97	2/45.34	44.79	+ 2	- 1	21	30	29	30
Grain		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Bakery products, all ingred.		31.22	29.35	2/29.65	29.57	+ 1	- 1	15	24	23	24
Grain		---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
Other cereal products	average consumers	12.48	2/14.82	2/15.49	13.22	+ 4	- 2	32	39	38	39
All fruits and vegetables		53.87	2/71.20	2/72.39	89.59	- 2	- 4	31	41	2/41	41
Fresh fruits and vegetables ..		37.34	2/52.64	2/54.60	51.77	- 2	- 5	35	45	2/44	43
Fresh vegetables		21.84	2/29.37	2/32.58	30.03	+ 2	- 6	34	43	2/40	40
Canned fruits and vegetables ..		12.22	2/13.33	2/12.92	13.00	- 4	+ 1	14	2/23	24	24
Miscellaneous products		21.20	2/24.42	2/23.35	23.35	- 4	0	18	2/26	2/28	28
		Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent	Percent
Beef (good grade)	Pound	12.9	7.6	2/4.9	4.4	- 42	- 10	58	78	2/85	87
Lamb	Pound	13.8	15.0	2/14.3	14.5	- 3	+ 1	49	58	2/59	59
Pork (including lard)	Pound	10.9	6.5	6.7	6.3	- 3	- 6	52	75	74	75
Butter	Pound	11.1	2/7.7	7.9	7.7	0	- 3	68	2/84	84	84
Cheese, American	Pound	12.3	10.6	2/12.3	11.6	+ 9	- 4	53	71	2/88	89
Evaporated milk	14-oz. can	4.8	5.0	2/5.0	4.8	- 4	- 4	38	52	2/52	54
Fluid milk	Quart	5.1	5.3	5.8	5.7	+ 4	- 2	55	82	61	81
Eggs	Dosen	6.7	14.0	14.6	16.9	+ 21	+ 14	77	77	71	70
Chicken	Pound	13.1	14.5	14.4	17.0	+ 17	+ 16	56	66	65	61
White bread	Pound	8.0	7.6	2/7.8	7.8	0	0	12	17	17	16
Whole wheat bread	Pound	8.7	9.0	8.8	8.7	- 3	- 1	9	14	14	13
Rye bread	Pound	9.0	9.0	8.8	6.7	- 3	- 1	10	16	16	17
Soda crackers	Pound	14.5	15.2	13.3	13.4	+ 1	- 1	10	14	14	15
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg.	7.1	5.3	5.0	5.1	+ 4	+ 2	11	21	24	23
Corn meal	Pound	1.6	3.0	3.4	3.6	+ 20	+ 6	47	42	40	38
Flour, white	Pound	2.2	3.0	3.1	3.0	0	- 3	43	46	45	47
Macaroni	Pound	13.0	13.0	12.9	12.9	- 1	0	13	17	18	16
Rice	Pound	4.6	2/6.0	2/8.9	6.6	+ 10	- 4	33	2/46	43	45
Rolls oats	Pound	5.6	5.1	2/6.7	6.7	+ 31	0	24	43	33	33
Wheat cereal	26-oz. pkg.	20.3	17.7	17.6	17.2	- 5	- 2	13	24	23	26
Apples	Pound	2.9	4.8	2/4.7	4.8	0	+ 2	41	49	2/50	49
Grapefruit	Each	3/	6.6	3.2	3.6	- 12	+ 12	3/	31	50	34
Oranges	Dosen	18.8	26.5	22.8	25.1	- 12	+ 10	37	44	53	47
Beets	Bunch	3/	2/4.4	2/5.0	4.9	+ 11	- 2	3/	2/46	2/35	36
Beans, snap	Pound	6.6	2/6.5	2/7.1	8.1	- 3	+ 14	40	2/51	2/56	44
Cabbage	Pound	2.6	2.4	2/2.6	3.0	+ 25	+ 15	24	2/44	2/43	30
Carrots	Bunch	3.7	6.2	2/3.2	3.7	- 6	+ 10	31	36	2/41	38
Lettuce	Head	3.1	2/7.0	4.6	3.3	- 21	+ 20	41	2/46	62	54
Onions	Pound	3.2	4.8	2/4.1	3.7	- 20	- 10	29	37	2/31	28
Potatoes	Pound	1.3	1.8	2.1	1.9	+ 6	- 10	50	56	54	56
Spinach	Pound	4.4	2/4.9	2/4.3	3.7	- 24	- 14	39	2/53	2/68	68
Sweetpotatoes	Pound	2.4	3.2	3.1	2.4	- 23	- 23	41	38	59	81
Grapefruit juice, canned	No. 2 can	3/	10.5	9.7	9.8	+ 7	+ 1	3/	29	34	33
Peaches, canned	No. 3 1/2 can	16.2	20.6	21.1	21.0	+ 2	4/	14	22	25	24
Beans, green, canned	No. 3 can	9.4	10.4	2/9.1	9.2	- 12	+ 1	17	28	30	29
Corn, canned	No. 2 can	10.6	11.6	12.0	12.1	+ 3	+ 1	12	18	19	19
Peas, canned	No. 2 can	13.3	11.0	2/10.1	10.2	- 7	+ 1	15	24	2/24	23
Tomatoes, canned	No. 2 can	7.9	9.5	2/9.1	9.2	- 3	+ 1	16	24	2/25	24
Prunes	Pound	7.0	9.0	6.3	7.6	- 16	- 8	30	46	53	36
Navy beans	Pound	3.5	3.7	4.2	4.2	+ 14	0	46	61	59	59
Beet sugar	Pound	4.0	2/4.8	4.2	4.2	- 12	0	30	33	41	41
Cane sugar	Pound	3.7	4.5	4.2	4.2	- 7	0	32	36	39	39
Corn sirup	24 oz.	9.7	10.6	10.2	10.3	- 3	+ 1	16	19	21	21
Margarine	Pound	13.8	15.8	15.5	13.8	0	+ 1	24	35	35	35
Salad and cooking oil	Pint	20.1	21.5	21.8	21.9	+ 2	4/	18	30	29	28
Vegetable shortening	Pound	14.3	13.7	13.4	13.4	- 2	0	27	42	43	43
Peanut butter	Pound	11.5	2/16.4	2/11.6	11.4	- 30	- 3	35	2/46	2/54	56

1/ Before adjustment for Government taxes and payments to marketing agencies. See table 8.

2/ Revised.

3/ Price data not available.

4/ Less than 0.5 of one percent.

Table 6.- Price spreada between farmers and consumers - food products: Marketing charges adjusted for Government taxes upon and payments to marketing agencies, October 1944 compared with the 1935-39 average, October 1943 and September 1944

Commodity	Retail unit	Government marketing taxes and payments 1/				Marketing charges 2/				Percentage change to October 1944 from -	
		1935-39 average	October 1943	September 1944	October 1944	1935-39 average	October 1943	September 1944	October 1944	October 1943	September 1944
		Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Percent
Market basket		-1.99	-0.37 + 9.64	-0.37 + 11.88	-0.37 + 12.64	201.03	3/224.43	3/226.01	223.73	4/	- 1
Meat products		-1.09	+ 6.40	+ 6.40	+ 6.40	40.65	3/33.16	3/29.30	28.51	- 14	- 4
Dairy products		---	+ 2.48	+ 2.60	+ 2.63	33.80	3/38.53	3/39.71	39.30	+ 2	- 1
Poultry and eggs		---	---	---	---	6.91	12.76	12.91	14.95	+ 17	+ 16
Bakery and other cereal products:	1935-39 annual average	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
All ingredients	quantities purchased	-66	-.05 + .10	-.05 + 1.14	-.05 + 1.86	43.04	3/44.02	3/46.43	46.60	+ 6	4/
Bakery products:	per family of three	-81	---	+ 1.00	+ 1.71	---	---	---	---	---	---
All ingredients	per family of three	-28	-.05 + .10	-.05 + .63	-.05 + .95	30.94	29.40	3/30.43	30.47	+ 4	4/
Other cereal products	average consumers	-23	---	+ .49	+ .80	---	---	---	---	---	---
		-36	---	+ .51	+ .91	12.10	3/14.62	3/16.00	16.13	+ 10	+ 1
All fruits and vegetables		---	+ .65	3/ + 1.29	+ 1.26	55.67	3/71.85	3/73.68	70.85	- 1	- 4
Fresh fruits and vegetables		---	+ .04	+ .07	+ .09	37.34	3/52.68	3/54.67	51.86	- 2	- 5
Fresh vegetables		---	---	---	---	21.84	3/29.37	3/32.56	30.03	+ 2	- 8
Canned fruits and vegetables		---	+ .41	+ .68	+ .54	12.22	13.94	3/13.60	13.54	- 3	4/
Miscellaneous products		-24	-.32 + .01	-.32 + .45	-.32 + .49	20.96	3/24.11	3/23.48	23.52	- 2	4/
		Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Percent	Percent
Beef (good grade)	Pound	---	+ 2.0	+ 2.0	+ 2.0	12.9	9.6	3/6.9	6.4	- 33	- 7
Lamb	Pound	---	+ 1.6	+ 1.6	+ 1.6	13.6	17.0	3/16.9	16.1	- 5	+ 1
Pork (including lard)	Pound	-0.60	+ 1.8	+ 1.8	+ 1.8	10.3	8.3	8.5	8.1	- 2	- 5
Butter	Pound	---	+ 5.0	+ 5.0	+ 5.0	11.1	3/12.7	12.9	12.7	0	- 2
Cheese, American	Pound	---	+ 3.77	+ 3.77	+ 3.77	12.3	14.6	3/16.2	15.6	+ 7	- 4
Evaporated milk	14-oz. can	---	---	---	---	4.6	5.0	3/6.0	4.8	- 4	- 4
Fluid milk	Quart	---	+ .03	+ .08	+ .09	5.1	5.5	5.9	5.8	+ 5	- 2
Eggs	Dosen	---	---	---	---	6.7	14.0	14.8	16.9	+ 21	+ 14
Chickens	Pound	---	---	---	---	13.1	14.5	14.4	17.0	+ 17	+ 18
White bread	Pound	-0.08	---	+ .14	+ .21	7.9	7.6	3/7.9	8.0	+ 3	+ 1
Whole wheat bread	Pound	-0.07	---	+ .10	+ .16	6.6	9.0	8.9	8.9	- 1	0
Rye bread	Pound	-0.08	---	+ .10	+ .15	8.9	9.0	8.9	8.9	- 1	0
Soda crackers	Pound	-0.14	---	+ .10	+ .30	14.2	15.2	15.6	15.7	+ 3	+ 1
Corn flakes	8-oz. pkg.	-0.01	---	---	---	7.1	5.3	5.0	5.1	- 4	+ 2
Corn meal	Pound	-0.02	---	---	---	1.6	3.0	3.4	3.6	+ 20	+ 6
Flour, white	Pound	-0.13	---	+ .17	+ .31	2.1	3.0	3.3	3.3	+ 10	0
Macaroni	Pound	-0.14	---	+ .24	+ .38	12.9	13.0	13.1	13.3	+ 2	+ 2
Rice	Pound	-0.10	---	---	---	4.7	3/6.0	3/6.9	6.6	+ 10	- 4
Rollod oats	Pound	---	---	---	---	5.6	5.1	3/6.7	6.7	+ 31	0
Wheat cereal	28-oz. pkg.	-0.26	---	+ .46	+ .73	20.2	17.7	18.0	17.9	+ 1	- 1
Apples	Pound	---	+ .04	+ .06	+ .08	2.9	4.8	3/4.8	4.9	+ 2	+ 2
Grapefruit	Each	---	---	---	---	---	6.6	5.2	5.8	- 12	+ 12
Oranges	Dozen	---	---	---	---	18.8	28.5	22.8	25.1	- 12	+ 10
Beets	Bunch	---	---	---	---	---	3/4.4	3/5.0	4.9	+ 11	- 2
Beans, snap	Pound	---	---	---	---	6.8	3/8.5	3/7.1	8.1	- 5	+ 14
Cabbage	Pound	---	---	---	---	2.6	2.4	3/2.6	3.0	+ 25	+ 15
Carrots	Bunch	---	---	---	---	3.7	6.2	3/5.2	5.7	- 8	+ 10
Lettuce	Head	---	---	---	---	5.1	3/7.0	4.6	5.5	- 21	+ 20
Onions	Pound	---	---	---	---	3.2	4.6	3/4.1	3.7	- 20	- 10
Potatoes	Pound	---	---	---	---	1.3	1.8	2.1	1.9	+ 6	- 10
Spinach	Pound	---	---	---	---	4.4	3/4.9	3/4.3	3.7	- 24	- 14
Sweetpotatoes	Pound	---	---	---	---	2.4	3.2	3.1	2.4	- 25	- 23
Grapefruit juice, canned	No. 2 can	---	+ 1.6	+ 2.1	---	---	12.1	11.8	9.8	- 19	- 17
Peaches, canned	No. 2 can	---	+ .1	---	---	16.2	20.7	21.1	21.0	+ 1	4/
Beans, green, canned	No. 2 can	---	+ .6	+ .9	+ .9	9.4	11.0	3/10.0	10.1	- 8	+ 1
Corn, canned	No. 2 can	---	+ .5	+ .7	+ .7	10.6	12.3	12.7	12.8	+ 4	+ 1
Peas, canned	No. 2 can	---	+ .7	+ 1.5	+ 1.6	13.3	11.7	3/11.6	11.8	+ 1	+ 2
Tomatoes, canned	No. 2 can	---	+ .5	+ .8	+ .9	7.9	10.0	3/9.9	10.1	+ 1	+ 2
Prunes	Pound	---	+ .6	+ 2.5	+ 2.8	7.0	9.6	10.8	10.4	+ 8	- 4
Heavy beans	Pound	---	+ .7	3/ + .5	+ .5	3.5	4.4	3/4.7	4.7	+ 7	0
Beet sugar	Pound	-0.35	-.54	-.54 + .49	-.54 + .49	3.6	4.3	4.2	4.2	- 2	0
Cane sugar	Pound	-0.35	-.54	-.54 + .18	-.54 + .18	3.3	4.0	3.8	3.8	- 5	0
Corn sirup	24 oz.	-0.03	---	---	---	9.7	10.6	10.2	10.3	- 3	+ 1
Margarine	Pound	-0.61	-.61 + .04	-.51 + .04	-.51 + .25	13.2	15.1	15.0	15.3	+ 1	+ 2
Salad and cooking oil	Pint	-0.03	---	---	---	20.1	21.5	21.8	21.9	+ 2	4/
Vegetable shortening	Pound	---	+ .03	+ .03	+ .16	14.3	13.7	13.4	13.6	- 1	+ 1
Peanut butter	Pound	-0.34	---	+ 4.5	+ 4.5	11.2	3/16.4	3/16.3	15.9	- 3	- 2

1/ Tax paid by marketing agency denoted by minus sign, payment by Government to agency by plus sign.

2/ Calculated from marketing margin (table 5) minus tax plus Government payment.

3/ Revised.

4/ Less than 0.5 of one percent.

Table 7.- Farm products: Indexes of prices at several levels of marketing,
1935-39 = 100

Year and month	Foods				Fibers				Prices	
	Cost	Retail	Whole-	Prices	Whole-	re-	Prices	Whole-	Prices	Prices
	of	prices	sale	re-	sale	ceived	by	sale	re-	Prices
	living	of farm	prices	ceived	of	of	farmers	all	farmers	paid
	of	food	products	farmers	cloth-	textile	cotton	pro-	pro-	pro-
	city	products	3/	2/	1/	ducts	and	ducts	ducts	5/
	fa-	2/	3/	2/	1/	3/	wool	3/	5/	5/
	milies	1/	3/	2/	1/	3/	4/	3/	5/	5/
1913	71	78	81	90	69	81	110	94	95	81
1914	72	80	82	91	70	77	97	94	94	80
1916	78	94	96	106	78	99	131	111	110	99
1918	108	135	151	171	128	193	280	195	190	141
1920	143	167	174	178	201	232	281	198	196	161
1929	122	128	126	133	115	127	166	138	139	123
1932	98	83	77	67	91	77	55	63	63	87
1935	98	102	106	100	97	100	108	104	101	100
1936	99	103	104	104	98	101	114	106	106	99
1937	103	106	108	114	103	107	111	114	114	105
1938	101	96	93	93	102	94	81	90	90	99
1939	99	93	89	89	100	98	87	86	88	97
1940	100	93	90	93	102	104	98	89	93	98
1941	105	102	105	112	106	119	131	108	115	105
1942	116	120	126	143	124	136	177	139	148	122
1943	124	135	135	172	130	137	190	161	179	134
1939										
Aug.	99	91	85	82	100	95	96	80	83	95
Sept.	101	95	95	91	100	101	91	90	91	98
1943										
Oct.	124	133	133	173	133	137	192	161	181	136
Nov.	124	133	134	174	134	138	185	160	181	137
Dec.	124	133	134	176	135	138	189	160	182	139
1944										
Jan.	124	133	133	176	135	138	191	160	182	139
Feb.	124	132	132	174	135	138	189	161	182	140
Mar.	124	131	132	175	137	138	189	163	182	140
Apr.	125	132	133	173	137	138	191	162	182	140
May	125	6/133	133	171	137	138	189	162	181	140
June	125	6/133	135	172	138	138	192	165	180	141
July	126	6/134	134	171	138	138	194	163	179	141
Aug.	126	6/133	133	172	139	139	192	161	180	141
Sept.	126	6/132	132	6/171	141	140	199	161	179	141
Oct.	126	132	132	172	142	140	200	162	181	141

1/ From "Changes in Cost of Living" Bureau of Labor Statistics.

2/ Calculated from data compiled for "Price Spreads Between Farmers and Consumers--Food Products," Bureau of Agricultural Economics, 1944.

3/ Calculated from data of the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

4/ Cotton and wool prices weighted by production in the period 1935-39.

5/ Based on figures published by the Crop Reporting Board.

6/ Revised.

